



12-23-04

ITW

December 17, 2004

Attn: Thach H Bui

Art Unit 3752

Organization TC 3700

Bldg/Room PK 1

Dear Mr. Bui,

Thank you very much for your correspondence of 11/12/04. I sincerely and respectfully request that you reconsider granting letters of Patent for my "Static Absorbing Grip", application number 10/781,435, based on the following:

In regard to United States Patent, Clark 5,667,113, this invention, a "wheeled fuel container" is a device for the purpose of transporting fuel or petroleum having wheels for mobility, a tank for storage of fuel, a pouring spout and handle. This device has no features to deal with the occurrence of static electricity, which is the primary function design of the "Static Absorbing Grip."

In regards to United States patent, Slusher, 6,725,590:

This invention deals with the placement of an identification tag on a wheel having spokes. This is done by the use of adhesive tape. In this invention, a series of layers of tape are used to secure the identification tag to the wheel. While the use of adhesive tapes are prevalent in many devices, the tape used in most cases is a common type tape having either transparent or colored plastic type material to which an adhesive compound is added to provide the adhering feature.

In the "Static Absorbing Grip", both a one sided adhesive tape and also a two sided adhesive tape are used. However, these tapes are special tapes having additional components, not common to tapes used in most applications. These features include high strength adhesive compounds. Also the base material is also high strength. Another feature of this tape, it is formulated to be tolerant to high temperatures. In addition, the two sided tape used in the "Static Absorbing Grip" is conductive, which is an essential

component in providing grounding capabilities for the static absorbing material used in this device. These special tapes are available from various manufacturers who deal primarily with tapes used in the electrical field.

In regard to United States Patent, Bryant, 4,856,299:

This invention described as a knitted fabric having improved electrical charge dissipation and absorbing properties.

In studying over the details of this invention it is a consideration that the conductive feature involved in this invention deals primarily with elimination of static charges which occur in the high speed production of yarn and materials made from fibers and yarns. In this rapid movement of yarns and cloth, static build up occurs which can cause a drawing force, causing lint and piling to occur. Another feature described in claims portion is that the static absorbing feature would be beneficial referring to sheets used in hospital bedding. Most all of the eleven claims of this invention deal with the complex manufacturing steps and procedures involving stitching sequences, types of stitching and various machinery used. Although this material has a static absorbing component, that being the weaving of a conductive fiber of yarn in with the mixture of nonconductive fibers, and would provide a degree of static absorbency, this material, nor any other woven material would be suitable for use in the manufacture of the "Static Absorbing Grip." Due to the weave of fabrics it is not possible to obtain a sound and secure bond between the material and the two sided adhesive tape, which is essential in the manufacture of the "Static Absorbing Grip." The two sided conductive adhesive provides the grounding source which is a primary feature in the construction and use of the invention. A further point is that a cloth type or woven material would not be suitable for use outside, exposed to weather and elements. If wetness should occur, the material would allow penetration of moisture to the adhesive, and this would result in the adhesive deteriorating and subsequent loss of holding abilities.

In testing for "Static Absorbing Grip," several static absorbing materials were used and only one was found ideal in this application. It is Nitrele Rubber electro static dissipating material. It is made in an extrusion process and consists of a durable foam rubber type

consistency having a solid vinyl backing material. The material has been used for many years and has well documented qualities. It also has an excellent bonding ability with the two sided adhesive used in this application. Most important, the conductivity rate is consistent in this material which is of great importance.

In closing, I wish to thank you for your review and consideration of this information. If I may provide any additional information, please let me hear from you. It is my sincere hope and prayer that after your review, letters of patent will be granted for the "Static Absorbing Grip."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ray Lumsden", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ray Lumsden